Adverse effect of ban on forward transaction

3755. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ban on ready-forward transactions has dried up the market for bonds affecting the market borrowing programmes of Public Sector Undertakings, Financial Institutions and State Government; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken to deal with the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The RBI has informed that the ban imposed by them with effect from June 22, 1992 in ready forward transactions in Government and other approved securities has not affected the floatations in the primary market in the current financial year so far.

(b) In view of reply to (a) above, the question does not arise.

Appeal of Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce to Government on export Credit

3756. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has appealed to Government to reduce the high interest rate of export credit and raise the quantum of credit in view of the sluggish export growth; and

(b) if so, what is the response of Government to this request?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) Government have not received in the recent past any memorandum or representation on export finance from Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. However, effective March 2, 1992 the interest rates on post shipment credit have been reduced from 20 per cent to 19 per cent for such credit beyond 90 days and upto six months from the date of shipment and from 24 per cent to 24 per cent in respect of such credit beyond six months from the date of shipment. The interest rate on export credit not otherwise specified has also been reduced from 20 per cent to 19 per cent. Further, dollar denominated post shipment export credit is being provided at 6.5 per cent per annum with effect from March 2, 1992 as against 8.5 per cent per annum earlier.

In its credit policy letter for the first half of the current financial year, Reserve Bank of India have advised the banks to give special attention to the credit needs of exporters.

Proposal to switch over banking to American format

3757. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are rethinking on the current banking style, known as Universal Banking, and switch over to the American Format; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal under Government's consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government or Reserve Bank of India at present.

भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम द्वारा अपने पालिसी धारकों को किया गया भुगतान

3758. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह :** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम ने पिछले एक वर्ष के दौरान कितने पालिसी-धारकों को कुल कितनी धनराशि का भुगतान किया है ;